

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims as follows. Insertions are shown underlined while deletions are ~~struck through~~.

1 (currently amended): A formed mat which is thermoformed so as to have a shape fitted to follow a floor of an automobile, the formed mat comprises:

a felt layer;

a thermoplastic resin sheet;

an elastic non-woven body which is 3.0mm or more in thickness, 300g/m² or more in weight per unit area, and less than 0.20g/cm³ in density; and

a wear resistance surface layer integrally formed on a surface of the elastic non-woven body;

wherein the elastic non-woven body is layered on the thermoplastic resin sheet so that the wear resistance surface layer directs to the inside of the room of the automobile, and

the thermoplastic resin sheet is layered between the felt layer and the non-woven body,

wherein the formed mat is elastic as a whole such that a recovery percentage in a folding test is conducted on the formed mat is 70% or more, wherein the recovery percentage denotes a ratio of an open angle around a folding line at a time when the formed mat is supported at the folding line and is left alone after the formed mat is folded over by 180 degrees around a straight line so as to face portions of the thermoplastic resin sheet to each other, to an original 180 degrees..

2 (previously presented): The formed mat according to claim 1, wherein the elastic non-woven body is a needle punched non-woven body which has polyester fibers of 50 to 99 % by weight and polyester-based low melting point fibers of 1 to 50 % by weight, the polyester fibers having a fiber diameter of 3 to 15 dtx and a length of 40 to 120mm, and the polyester-based low melting point fibers having a fiber diameter of 3 to 12 dtx and a length of 40 to 90mm.

3 (previously presented): The formed mat according to claim 2, wherein the needle punched non-woven body contains, as the polyester fibers, two or more types of fibers having different fiber diameters.

4 (previously presented): The formed mat according to claim 2, wherein the surface layer having wear resistance is formed in the needle punched non-woven body.

5 (original): The formed mat according to claim 4, wherein fibers constituting the surface layer having wear resistance has a color tone different from that of fibers constituting other portions of the needle punched non-woven body, and a decorative pattern is formed by partially taking out the fibers constituting the other portions of the needle punched non-woven body onto a surface of the surface layer having wear resistance.

6 (canceled):

7 (currently amended): A formed mat thermoformed in a shape configured to be fitted inside a floor of an automobile, comprising:

a felt layer;

an elastic non-woven body for sound absorption having a thickness of 3.0 mm or more, a weight of 300 g/m² or more, and a density of less than 0.20 g/cm³;

a wear resistance surface layer integrally formed on one surface of the elastic non-woven body; and

a thermoplastic resin sheet for sound isolation which is formed between the other surface of elastic non-woven body which is opposite of the surface having the wear resistance layer integrally formed on and the felt layer, said thermoplastic resin sheet being thinner than the elastic non-woven body;

wherein the formed mat is elastic as a whole and which has a recovery percentage of 70% or more of the formed mat as measured by a folding test in which a test piece of the formed mat is bent on a folding line until portions of the thermoplastic resin sheet touch each other, and an angle α formed at the folding line between the portions of the thermoplastic resin sheet is measured after releasing the bent test piece, wherein the recovery percentage is expressed as $\alpha/180^\circ \times 100$.

8 (previously presented): The formed mat according to claim 7, wherein the elastic non-woven body is needle punched and comprises:

50-99% by weight of polyester fibers having a fiber diameter of 3-15 dtx and a length of 40-120 mm; and

1-50% by weight of polyester-based low-melting point fibers having a fiber diameter of 3-12 dtx and a length of 40-90 mm.

Application No.: 10/561,357
Filing Date: December 19, 2005

9 (previously amended): The formed mat according to claim 8, wherein the non-woven body contains, as the polyester fibers, two or more types of fibers having different fiber diameters.

10 (previously presented): The formed mat according to claim 8, wherein the non-woven body further comprises a surface layer having wear resistance.

11 (previously presented): The formed mat according to claim 10, wherein the surface layer is constituted by fibers having a color tone different from that of fibers constituting other portions of the non-woven body, and a decorative pattern is formed on a surface of the surface layer by partially taking out the fibers constituting the other portions of the non-woven body onto the surface of the surface layer.

12 (previously presented): The formed mat according to claim 7, further comprising a felt layer layered underneath the thermoplastic resin sheet.

13 (canceled):